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PATENT
DOCKET 6339

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Janie McKittrick

Serial No.: 09/073,643

Filed: May 6, 1998

Group Art Unit: 3671

Title: GARDEN TOOL HAVING
ENHANCED LEVERAGE

Examiner: H. Shackelford

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box DAC
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Dear Madam:

The following amendments and remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on April 21, 1999.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Thrice Amended). A hand held gardening implement, comprising:

a frame member having a longitudinal dimension, a proximal end, and a distal end[;],

a working element adjacent said frame member at said proximal end of said frame member[;],

a generally rigid brace attached to said frame member adjacent said distal end of said frame member, wherein said brace has a forearm engaging surface; and